

1

Influence

Reading and Use of English Part 7

Multiple matching

- 1 You are going to read four blogs written by drivers about dangerous weather conditions. For questions 1–10, choose from the people (A–D). The people may be chosen more than once.

Which driver

- | | | |
|---|----|----------------------|
| 1 says they are better suited to something than another person? | 1 | <input type="text"/> |
| 2 reads certain information before making a trip? | 2 | <input type="text"/> |
| 3 wishes their car had an item that improves safety? | 3 | <input type="text"/> |
| 4 was relieved that their vehicle was only slightly damaged? | 4 | <input type="text"/> |
| 5 is prepared to be uncomfortable to improve safety? | 5 | <input type="text"/> |
| 6 mentions another person helping to avoid an accident? | 6 | <input type="text"/> |
| 7 suffers more than other drivers because of their place of residence? | 7 | <input type="text"/> |
| 8 mentions a step people sometimes take which can end up creating danger? | 8 | <input type="text"/> |
| 9 was relieved they had purchased something before a trip? | 9 | <input type="text"/> |
| 10 regrets not taking an item on a trip? | 10 | <input type="text"/> |

- 2 Match the phrasal verbs in **bold** in the text to the meanings a–f. Use the context to help you. The meanings are in the infinitive form.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| a lower | _____ |
| b start a journey | _____ |
| c stop | _____ |
| d make something gradually thinner | _____ |
| e remove | _____ |
| f tolerate | _____ |

A Driving in heavy rain is something I absolutely detest. I've read that even though drivers tend to slow down and not overtake, there is still a much higher chance of having an accident. I find that visibility is really reduced and, when a truck or other large vehicle passes, the splash is frightening. Also, the windscreen steams up and I'm constantly having to wipe it in order to see through it properly. Sometimes, I end up having to open a window to **get rid of** the steam and just **put up with** getting wet. It's even worse if it rains at night because of the reflection of other vehicles' headlights on the road surface. One time, I skidded across the road during torrential rainfall because a car in front braked suddenly. My tyres were quite **worn down** so they didn't grip the road. Luckily, nothing was coming the other way, so I didn't crash. Now I just try to avoid making unnecessary journeys in heavy rain by checking the forecast on my phone before **setting out**.

- 3 Complete each sentence with a word or phrase from exercise 2 in the correct form.

- The heels of my boots are really _____. I must get them repaired.
- We _____ before sunrise so that we would reach the peak before midday.
- I'm going to _____ all my old clothes and buy some nice new things.
- It's going to rain all weekend so we'll just have to _____ it.
- I always _____ the blinds so that the sun doesn't wake me up early in the morning.
- Our car started making a strange noise, so we _____ at a petrol station and called a mechanic.

B My wife and I go on caravanning holidays at least twice every year. We love it, but one thing we really dislike is driving through high winds. We often go down to the Atlantic coast and the wind can get quite violent there. In fact, I usually take over at the wheel when the conditions are bad, because I'm a lot more experienced than my wife. The caravan gets pushed all over the road and you have to grip the steering wheel really firmly to keep in control. I remember a branch from a tree once blew onto the road and we almost drove straight over it. We'd just had a new set of tyres put on the week before, so thankfully I managed to brake properly and didn't skid. Another time, we were driving slowly through a village in France and a sudden gust of wind picked up a dustbin lid which then flew through the air and hit one of our side windows. It made a huge bang and the noise terrified us. It only cracked the window, although it would have been a lot worse if it had hit the windscreen. Since then, we always check into the nearest campsite as soon as we feel a wind getting up.

C I'm quite used to driving in foggy conditions, but that doesn't mean I like it! I live in the countryside near a river, so we tend to have a higher number of foggy days than other areas. In my experience, most drivers do try to reduce their speed when visibility is poor; however, this sometimes means they keep a lot closer to the vehicle in front. In fact, I've heard of a few cases where people actually get up close to another car's lights just so they can follow them. I would never do that – it's extremely dangerous. When a driver brakes and the car in front is too close, there's a lot less space to stop safely. It's even worse at night time because the lights in front get reflected by the tiny drops of water, which makes it really hard to see where you are going. Another thing people frequently forget is that fog can make the road surface slippery, making driving even more terrifying. I remember one particular journey where the conditions were so bad that I **pulled in** at the side of the road and waited until morning. I wished I'd packed a blanket in the boot, because I was freezing cold.

D I can't stand driving with the sun in my eyes. I generally try to avoid trips at sunrise and sunset because that's when the sun is low on the horizon, and it's extremely dangerous if you suddenly come over the top of a hill and it hits you straight in the eyes. It can be blinding – even **putting down** the sun visor doesn't block it out completely. If only my car had one of those windscreens with special glass that got darker in the sun! One thing I always do is to make sure my windscreen is really clean before a long trip because the sun tends to make any dirt more visible and distracting. Once I had quite a scary experience when, even though I was travelling away from the sun, the sunlight reflected off a huge glass-plated office block. The sudden sunlight panicked me because I couldn't see a thing and the car swerved. Fortunately, my wife has quick reflexes so she grabbed the steering wheel and got us safely off the road. It took me a while to recover because I had black dots floating around in my eyes. Who would have thought an innocent building could be such a danger!



Vocabulary

Influences

1 Complete each sentence with a verb from the box. You may need to change the form of the verb.

copy	idolise	set	encourage
shape	influence	look up	

- The fact that both my parents were doctors really _____ my choice of career.
- I _____ to my grandmother since I was a child, because she is so wise.
- My dad always used _____ me to learn from my mistakes.
- Technological inventions can really _____ the course of history.
- I _____ my big brother, because he was so clever.
- It's interesting how people tend _____ each other's body language.
- The politicians in the new government should _____ a good example by cutting their salaries.

The weather

2 Match the words in A to the words in B to make common collocations.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|------------|
| A | | B |
| 0 widespread | _____ | a sun |
| 1 hard | | b flooding |
| 2 blazing | | c over |
| 3 light | | d force |
| 4 torrential | | e rain |
| 5 gale- | | f winter |
| 6 cloud | | g breeze |

3 Complete each sentence with a collocation from exercise 2.

- If you are going out in that _____, you must wear sunglasses.
- The incredible storms caused _____.
- I really need a holiday in the sun. It's been such a _____.
- A number of houses were damaged by the _____ winds.
- We had to change our clothes when we got in, because we got caught in _____.
- There was a _____ so it wasn't too hot on the beach.
- Typical! Just as we get to the park, it's starting to _____.



Language focus

Present and past tenses

1 Complete each sentence with the words in brackets. You need to put the verbs in the correct tense.

- I'm absolutely exhausted because I _____ my two-year old niece all day. (look after)
- We _____ skiing last year. (go)
- The teacher was really angry because the pupils _____ to do their homework. (forget)
- I _____ all the cleaning yet. (finish)
- They _____ in this law firm for over a year and they really enjoy it. (work)
- Did you _____ the news last night? (watch)
- We _____ Jack for ages and the great thing is he never changes. (know)
- Liam felt really tired in the exam, because he _____ all night. (sleep)
- Karina listened to the radio while she _____ her essay. (write)
- My dad is so annoying; he _____ me to tidy my room. (always, tell)
- Janet _____ for about an hour, when the car started making an awful noise. (only, drive)
- I _____ two assignments this week and I still have one more to do by Friday. (already, write)

used to/would

2 Complete each sentence with the correct form of the words in brackets and either *would* or *used to*.

- When I was a child, we _____ to the park after school. (always, go)
- Natalia _____ the violin when she was a child, but she gave it up when she was sixteen. (play)
- Matt _____ pretty good German, but he's forgotten it now. (speak)

Listening Part 2

Sentence completion

01

You will hear a man called Peter Jones giving a talk to a group of teenagers about an experience which had a great influence on his life.

For questions 1–10, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Peter's friends used to miss school and go to the

(1)

They shoplifted items such as

(2)

Peter's parents punished him and wouldn't let him go out for

(3)

He rode a motorbike through the

(4)

A (5) reported Peter and his friends to the police.

He decided to change when he lost his (6)

His mum gave him an (7) which had a great impact on him.

He had a very good relationship with the (8) in the youth offender institution.

He applied for a job in a firm which made (9)

The owner of the company was pleased Peter told him about his (10)

Reading and Use of English Part 1

Multiple-choice cloze

For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Parents' influence on their children's maths scores

We all know that some people are better at maths than others and often, these skills (0) in the family. Recently, an investigation into whether people's mathematical ability was more related to genetic or environmental factors was (1) out. The maths skills of more than 400 pupils were analysed at the (2) of the school year and also at the end. Additionally, the children were asked to explain how maths-related situations, like tests, (3) them feel. The children's parents, meanwhile, had to fill in a survey on their (4) towards maths and were asked how often they helped their children with homework.

Results showed that having a parent with maths anxiety was not the best indicator of the students' (5) In fact, only students whose 'maths-anxious' parents actively helped them with their schoolwork were (6) to learn less over the school year and develop a similar maths anxiety. Students with maths-anxious parents that did not help them with their schoolwork did not (7) the same results. Perhaps, then, it's not only the parents' genes that contribute to their children's poor maths skills, but also the (8) environment that some of them create.

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| 0 | A <u>run</u> | B take | C get | D influence |
| 1 | A turned | B taken | C carried | D looked |
| 2 | A opening | B source | C origin | D start |
| 3 | A made | B did | C let | D allowed |
| 4 | A concerns | B beliefs | C attitudes | D worries |
| 5 | A notes | B titles | C certificates | D grades |
| 6 | A possible | B likely | C probable | D surely |
| 7 | A perform | B display | C give | D sample |
| 8 | A tense | B firm | C stressing | D hard |





Writing Part 1

Essay

1 Read the exam task and the two different approaches to this essay.

In your English class you have been discussing factors which influence motivation in the workplace. Now, your English teacher has asked you to write an essay.

Write an essay using **all** the notes and giving reasons for your point of view.

Salary is the single greatest influence on motivation in the workplace. Do you agree?

Notes

Write about:

- 1 salary
- 2 working atmosphere
- 3 _____ (your own idea)

Two different approaches

- 1 agree that salary is the single greatest influence (one-sided essay)
- 2 say that all three factors have an equal influence (balanced essay)

2 Read this model answer and decide which approach (1 or 2) it takes. Ignore the gaps for now.

We all need money to live and no-one is going to complain about being paid a good salary.

(1), I believe that other factors also influence the amount of effort we are prepared to put into our work.

A pleasant atmosphere at work really encourages employees to be more hard-working. If going to work is enjoyable, then they will not mind being asked to work overtime to meet a tight deadline.

(2), if workers feel stressed, they will probably perform less well (3) their salary is high.

Another influence on motivation is the prospect of promotion. This is especially important for younger staff. If advice is offered on possible career paths, and investment is made in training programmes, staff will feel more motivated. (4), they will perform better.

(5), I feel it is important for a company to show their appreciation by offering an adequate salary and giving employees a chance to move up the career ladder. However, I do not believe the staff will be fully motivated unless there is a friendly working environment.

(6), creating this atmosphere should be any company's number one priority.

3 Read the model answer again and complete each sentence with a word or phrase from the box. You may need to use capital letters.

in conclusion however in contrast
as a consequence even though therefore

4 It is important to use a variety of vocabulary related to the topic of the essay. Which vocabulary does the model answer use to describe the following?

salary _____
working atmosphere _____
employees _____

5 Read this exam task and underline the key information.

In your English class you have been discussing how music influences teenagers. Now, your English teacher has asked you to write an essay. Write an essay using **all** the notes and giving reasons for your point of view.

Do you think music has a positive or negative influence on teenagers?

Notes

Write about:

- 1 effect on studies
- 2 effect on choice of friends
- 3 _____ (your own idea)

- 6 This chart shows two different approaches to the essay. Read the information in the chart and put the missing notes A–E in the correct section.

One-sided essay Say that music only has a positive influence on teenagers.	Balanced essay Say that music has both a positive and negative influence on teenagers.
Introduction 1 _____	Introduction 2 _____
Topic paragraph 1 3 _____	Topic paragraph 1 4 _____
Topic paragraph 2 Background music increases ability to concentrate → develops creativity → performance at school improves	Topic paragraph 2 learn lyrics → improve English → increases awareness of social issues
Conclusion 5 _____	Conclusion Can lead to bad choice of friends → but in general helps teenagers understand world

- A Mention negative influence of music → e.g. prevents teenagers studying → contrast with positive influence → e.g. helps them learn English
- B Gives teenagers common interest → follow fashions associated with particular music → gain feeling of belonging to group
- C follow group → go to concerts → make unsuitable friends → have social problems
- D Briefly describe positive influences of music → e.g. creates sense of belonging to group
- E Provides teenagers with sense of identity

- 7 Write your own answer to the question in exercise 5 in 140–190 words. You can choose to write a one-sided or a balanced essay.

Remember

- Decide if you will answer the question with a one-sided or balanced essay.
- Write your plan, organising your ideas into paragraphs and including an introduction and a conclusion.
- Include a range of vocabulary.
- Write in a consistently formal style.

